

Claims

- [c1] A method for a user for accounting for and providing evidence of payment of postage comprising:
- obtaining a registered digital pen meter registered to the user;
 - handwriting a return address field on a mail piece;
 - handwriting a mail piece identifier on the mail piece;
 - facilitating the transfer of digital pen data to a server; and
 - placing the mail piece in the mail stream.
- [c2] The method of claim 1 further comprising:
- receiving an indication that postage was paid.
- [c3] The method of claim 1 wherein:
- the user selects the mail piece identifier.
- [c4] The method of claim 1 wherein:
- a postal authority sends the mail piece identifier to the user.
- [c5] The method of claim 1 further comprising:
- obtaining biometric data relating to the user.
- [c6] The method of claim 1 further comprising:
- obtaining biometric data relating to the pen strokes of the user.
- [c7] The method of claim 1 further comprising:
- obtaining a postage value indicator written in a postal value field.
- [c8] The method of claim 1 wherein:
- the mail piece identifier comprises data obtained from a destination address field.
- [c9] The method of claim 8 wherein:
- the mail piece identifier comprises a graphical image representation of the destination address field.
- [c10] The method of claim 8 wherein:
- the mail piece identifier comprises data obtained from at least one pen stroke

captured from writing on the mail piece.

- [c11] The method of claim 8 wherein:
the mail piece identifier comprises pen stroke data captured from the destination address field and is stored to be matched with a scan of the destination address field.
- [c12] A method for verifying payment of postage comprising:
obtaining a user profile;
obtaining a mail piece identifier from a mail piece;
obtaining customer data from the mail piece;
obtaining a mail piece user profile; and
comparing the mail piece user profile to the user profile.
- [c13] The method of claim 12 wherein:
the user profile include information obtained using user biometric data.
- [c14] The method of claim 12 wherein:
the user profile includes information obtained from pen strokes.
- [c15] A method for verifying payment of postage comprising:
obtaining a mail piece identifier from a mail piece;
obtaining a stored mail piece identifier; and
comparing the mail piece identifier to the stored mail piece identifier.